



US Department
of Transportation

**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

Deputy Administrator

400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

NHTSA-98-3585-41

37710

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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DOCUMENT SECTION

David A. Collins, Esq.
General Motors Corporation
Legal Staff
New Center One Building
3031 West Grant Boulevard
Detroit, MI 48232

Dear Mr. Collins:

Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement between General Motors Corporation (GM) and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), GM made a commitment to expend "at least \$2 million within the first year following the effective date of the agreement in the area of computer-based design modeling of accident-related injuries arising from fire, trauma, and exposure to toxic substances." GM agreed to expend "an additional \$3 million for these purposes over the subsequent three-year period."

GM's commitment to expend the \$3 million in the latter three-year period, however, "is dependent upon DOT "supporting these or similar activities during the latter three-year period." In accordance with the agreement, "DOT support may take the form of, but is not limited to, grants and contracts, as well as direct and indirect expenditures, for computer modeling for side impact and frontal impact dummies."

Accordingly, GM is not required to expend the \$3 million in the latter three-year period on computer modeling activities until DOT had also expended approximately this amount on these types of activities.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has performed a review of the expenditures it made during the period April 1, 1996 to June 5, 1998, in support of computer modeling research. Based on our review, we have determined that a total of \$3,198,355 was expended during that period of time. A list of these expenditures is enclosed.

With NHTSA's expenditure of these funds, GM's agreement to expend \$3 million in years 2-4 of the settlement agreement on computer modeling activities is no longer dependent on the condition mentioned above.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Heidi L. Coleman, Assistant Chief Counsel for General Law at 202-366-1834.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Philip R. Recht", written in a cursive style.

Philip R. Recht

Enclosure

**Funds Expended that Supported
Computer Modeling Research
From April 1, 1996 to June 5, 1998**

Listed below are activities that were supported with NHTSA funds. The dollar amounts listed represent expenditures for each activity that:

- ^a supported computer modeling research; and
- were expended during the period April 1, 1996 to June 5, 1998.

COMPUTER MODELING

ID NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	EXPENDITURES
2494D9207323	Analytical Modelling Support - Side Impact/Roof Structure	670,252
2897X9707050	Analytical Modelling Support - DOE/ORNL	303,287
2894X92074 15	Analytical Modelling Support - Highway Traffic Injury Studies	2,011,176
2897X9707409	Analytical Modelling Support - Highway Traffic Injury Studies	4,800
2894X9007357	Analytical Modelling Support - Simulations of Rollover Testing	208,840
	TOTAL	3,198,355